CLAIM SET AS AMENDED

1-7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) A Chinese character encoding input apparatus, comprising:

a keyboard containing at least keys numbered 1-9 and two function keys, and the keys numbered 1-9 of said keyboard correspond to nine shapes of the starting strokes of Chinese characters, the nine shapes being a dot shape, a straight shape, an oblique shape, a circle shape, a cave shape, a steeple shape, a cross shape, a fork shape and a zigzag shape, and being arranged into three rows and three columns in a JiuGong lattice pattern,

wherein, in order to input any one of the monolitic Chinese characters, only two of the keys numbered 1-9 need be pressed, and in order to input any one of the transverse Chinese characters, only three of the keys numbered 1-9 need be pressed.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the input keyboard is a keyboard that only includes the keys numbered 1-9, a function key numbered 0, and another function key numbered 11.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer apparatus using the method according to claim~~s~~ 12, comprising said keyboard, CPU, a memory, the display and a printer, wherein said apparatus also includes a Chinese character library, a JiuGong lattice pattern library

and an exclusive control program, all of which are preset in the computer, or are preset in the memory of the computer, or are inputted into the computer from a medium in the form of a CD, a magnetic disk, or a storage medium.

11. (Previously Presented) The computer apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the computer apparatus can be replaced by the telephone or the mobile telephone set in the communication field.

12. (Previously Presented) A Chinese character encoding input method used in a computer, a telephone set, or a transmitting and receiving apparatus, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a display capable of displaying a JiuGong lattice pattern of radicals and Chinese characters, the lattice pattern having three rows and three columns,

providing a keyboard with keys numbered 1-9 arranged in the three rows and the three columns corresponding the lattice pattern;

pressing one of the keys numbered 1-9 on the keypad according to one of nine different shapes of a starting stroke of the Chinese character to be inputted, whereby a JiuGong radical pattern appears;

pressing the key corresponding to the radical in the JiuGong lattice pattern to be inputted, whereby another JiuGong lattice pattern appears containing nine other radicals; and

if the Chinese character to be inputted is a monolithic character, pressing a key numbered 0 of the keyboard;

if the Chinese character to be inputted is a transverse character, pressing the key numbered 1-9 corresponding to a shape of the starting stroke of a right-half of the Chinese character,

wherein, in order to input any one of the monolithic Chinese characters, only two of the keys numbered 1-9 need be pressed, and in order to input any one of the transverse Chinese characters, only three of the keys numbered 1-9 need be pressed.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the nine shapes of the starting strokes of all of the Chinese characters are a dot shape, a straight shape, an oblique shape, a circle shape, a cave shape, a steeple shape, a cross shape, a fork shape and a zigzag shape, and each of the shapes corresponds to one of the keys numbered 1-9 which are used for inputting.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein ~~said~~ a dot shape is denoted by "*", and it covers those Chinese characters which start with a dot stroke, including 永, 实, 病, 次, 汕, 火, 心 ;

~~said~~ a straight shape is denoted by "-", and it covers those Chinese characters which start with a horizontal or vertical stroke, including 王, 两, 面, 中, 愿, 虎 ;

~~said~~ a oblique shape is denoted by "/", and it covers those Chinese characters which start with an oblique stroke, including 我, 毛, 香, 受, 反, 急, 年, 笋, 作 ;~~, and so on;~~

~~said~~ a circle shape is denoted by "o", and it covers those Chinese characters which include a four-sided frame, including 国, 圆, 目, 尸, 巴, 民 ;

~~said~~ a cave shape is denoted by "U", and it covers those Chinese characters which have an incomplete frame with three sides, including 同, 山, 月, 风, 冥, 巨, 帚, 凶 ;

~~said~~ a steeple shape is denoted by including "A", and it covers those Chinese characters which is of a steeple form, including 金, 分, 父, 谷, 小, 祭, 食 ;

said cross shape is denoted by "+", and it covers those Chinese characters which include a cross form, including 直, 提, 土, 青, 木, 草, 革 ;

said fork shape is denoted by "X":, and it covers those Chinese characters in which two strokes intersect to form "X", one of the two strokes is oblique including 有, 杀, 大, 春, 成, 力, 女, 也, 七 ; and

said zigzag shape is denoted by "Z", and it covers those Chinese characters which have a zigzag stroke, including 了, 飞, 参, 阵, 刀, 丝, 弓, 马.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein 81 radicals are adopted, said 81 radicals are divided into nine groups, each of the groups of nine radicals is distributed into three rows and three columns, and corresponds to number key 1-9 respectively.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein the 81 radicals of the nine groups are determined according to radical patterns of the nine shape groups of the starting strokes of the Chinese characters, and each of the groups of radicals corresponds to one of the nine shape groups of the starting strokes of the Chinese characters.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the inputting steps are guided by the change of the JiuGong pattern.